

This document is presented in three volumes, and is consistent with all applicable Federal requirements guiding the preparation of a Draft Land Management Plan (DLMP) and a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS).

Volume 1 provides a detailed description of the planning analysis of the DEIS, which includes:

- **Executive Summary:** The Executive Summary provides a brief overview of discussions that are detailed in the full document. It serves as a synopsis of the planning process, as well as of the purpose and need, the issues, and the alternatives resulting from the planning process.
- **Chapter 1 - Purpose and Need:** This chapter offers a brief history and background of the management area. It describes the lead agencies (the USFS and the BLM) responsible for the overall planning and management of the San Juan public lands. It describes the purpose and need for the action, the scoping process and issues, planning criteria, the planning process, related plans and relevant policy, and the overall vision of this DLMP/DEIS.
- **Chapter 2 - Alternatives:** This chapter describes potential management approaches or “alternatives” and discusses the alternative development process. Four land management alternatives for managing the San Juan Public Lands are evaluated in detail in this DLMP/DEIS, including the No-Action Alternative (Alternative A) and the agencies Preferred Alternative (Alternative B). Additionally, the oil and gas leasing availability alternatives are described in detail in this chapter, including the no leasing alternative.
- **Chapter 3 - Affected Environment/Environmental Consequences:** This chapter describes the current physical, biological, human, and land use environments of the management area (the affected environment). This description provides a baseline against which to compare the impacts of the alternatives. The baseline described in this Chapter represents environmental and social conditions and trends in the planning area at the time this document was being prepared. In addition, this chapter evaluates how, and to what extent, baseline conditions may be altered (impacted) by the alternatives (the environmental consequences). These changes are measured in terms of adverse and beneficial impacts, direct and indirect impacts, and individual and cumulative impacts.
- **Chapter 4 - Preparers:** This chapter presents the names and qualifications of the people responsible for preparing this DLMP/DEIS.
- **Chapter 5 - References:** This chapter provides full citation information for all references, published and unpublished, cited in this document, as well as a glossary of terms used to explain natural resource concepts and management activities specific to this DLMP/DEIS.

Volume 2 provides a detailed description of Alternative B, the Preferred Alternative. This Draft Land Management Plan is formatted into three interrelated parts:

- **Part 1 – Vision:** This part sets the context for the Plan and describes the San Juan Public Land’s uniqueness on a regional and national level. It also describes the roles and contributions of the San Juan Public Lands and presents the desired conditions at several geographic scales. The vision is long-term and reflects ecological timeframes as well as social desires. In BLM planning terms, the vision includes desired outcomes and goals. In USFS planning terms, it includes goals and management area direction.

- **Part 2 – Strategy:** This part articulates how the BLM and Forest Service intend to move the San Juan Public Lands toward the desired conditions described in Part 1. The strategy is organized into four sections: objectives, suitable uses, special areas, and monitoring. In BLM planning terms, the strategy includes objectives; uses or allocations that are allowable, restricted or prohibited; some management actions (administrative designations and actions to achieve desired outcomes); and monitoring. In USFS planning terms, it includes objectives, suitability and capability, management area prescriptions, recommendations for the Secretary of Agriculture to take to Congress, and monitoring.
- **Part 3 – Design Criteria:** This part identifies the sideboards for the strategy as well as for subsequent projects designed to implement the strategy. In addition to specific standards and guidelines, this section includes references to other applicable guidance that the BLM and Forest Service use during project planning and implementation. The other guidance includes applicable Federal laws and regulations, Executive Orders (EOs), directives (manuals and handbooks), and State and local laws and regulations. In BLM planning terms the design criteria include some management actions (proactive measures and measures or criteria applied to guide day-to-day activities occurring on public land). In USFS planning terms, the design criteria include standards and guidelines.

Volume 3 provides the appendices and additional supporting information for the overall DLMP/DEIS, which some readers may find helpful when reviewing the main text of the document.

NOTE: Potential decisions and/or other discussions contained in this document may refer directly to maps and figures. In fact, many potential decisions themselves are “map-based.” Therefore, the reader may rely on the text, maps, and figures, taken together as a whole, in order to fully understand the potential decisions described for each alternative.

HOW TO COMMENT ON THIS DOCUMENT

The Environmental Protection Agency’s Notice of Availability (NOA) published in the Federal Register, initiates a 90-day public review and comment period. During this period, comments may be submitted using one of the following methods:

Via Website at: <http://ocs.fortlewis.edu/forestPlan>

By FAX to: 916-456-6724

By mail to: San Juan Plan Revision
P.O. Box 162909
Sacramento, CA 95816-2909

Reviewers should provide their comments to the USFS and BLM during the review period of the draft environmental impact statement. This will enable the USFS and BLM to analyze and respond to the comments at one time and to use information acquired in the preparation of the final environmental impact statement, thus avoiding undue delay in the decisionmaking process. Reviewers have an obligation to structure their participation in the National Environmental Policy Act process so that it is meaningful and alerts the agency to the reviewers' position and contentions. *Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp. v. NRDC*, 435 U.S. 519, 553 (1978). Environmental objections that could have been raised at the draft stage may be waived if not raised until after completion of the final environmental impact statement. *City of Angoon v. Hodel* (9th Circuit, 1986) and *Wisconsin Heritages, Inc. v. Harris*, 490 F. Supp. 1334, 1338 (E.D. Wis. 1980). Comments on the draft environmental impact statement should be specific and should address the adequacy of the statement and the merits of the alternatives discussed (40 CFR 1503.3).

TIPS FOR REVIEWING AND COMMENTING ON THIS DOCUMENT

Some questions you may want to consider while reading this document include:

- Does the Preferred Alternative provide for the uses and/or the activities you consider to be the most important and relevant in the San Juan public lands planning area? If not, why not?
- Does the Preferred Alternative adequately protect the values, resources, and/or conditions that you consider to be the most important in the San Juan public lands planning area? If not, why not?
- Is there new or additional information that you believe would have a bearing on the analysis? If so, what specifically?
- Do you believe that the USFS/BLM needs to clarify any of the potential decisions? If so, which ones?

To be most helpful, comments should be as specific as possible and address the adequacy of the document or the merits of the alternatives. It is also helpful if comments refer to specific chapters and pages of the DLMP/DEIS.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT CONSIDERATIONS

Public comments submitted during this planning review, including names and street addresses of respondents will be available for public review at the San Juan Public Lands Center during regular business hours (8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays). Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, and/or other personal identifying information in your comment, be advised that your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – may be made publicly available at any time. Only individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comments. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law; however, there is no guarantee that we will be able to honor this request. All submissions from organizations or businesses, or from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you would like to have your name added to the mailing list, or if you would like to view and download the DLMP/DEIS in Portable Document Format (PDF), please go to the project website at: <http://ocs.fortlewis.edu/forestPlan>. Copies of the DLMP/DEIS are also available at the following government offices during regular business hours:

- the Columbine Ranger District/Field Office, 367 Pearl Street, Bayfield, CO 81122 (970-884-2512);
- the Dolores Public Lands Office, 29211 Highway 184, Dolores, CO 81323 (970-882-7296);
- the Pagosa Springs Ranger District/Field Office, 180 Pagosa Street, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 (970-264-2268);
- the BLM Colorado State Office, 2850 Youngfield Street, Lakewood, CO 80215; and
- the USDA Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Region, 740 Simms Street, Golden, CO 80401.

Copies are also available in some public libraries, including those in:

- Cortez, Colorado;
- Durango, Colorado;
- Pagosa Springs, Colorado;
- Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado;
- University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado; and
- Fort Lewis College, Durango, Colorado.